Accumulation of Sugar Stock in Tamil Nadu

724. SHRI PASUMPON THA KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a large quantity of sugar is accumulated in Tamil Nadu and the Tamil Nadu government is bringing pressure to the Central Government for early clearance of the stock;

(b) if so, what is the total quantity of sugar accumulated in Tamil Nadu and what is the total quantity accumulated in other States;

(c) what are the reasons for such unprecedented accumulation of sugar; and

(d) what are the plans contemplated by the Central Government to clear the accumulated stock of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) There has been a record production of sugar in the country during 1994-95 sugar season (October-September). The stocks of sugar held by the sugar factories located in a state are dependent upon their production and releases of sugar under levy and free sale quotas. The statewise stocks of sugar held by the sugar factories as on 30.11.1995 is annexed as statement (*See* below). The stocks of sugar in the State of Tamil Nadu are less than the stocks of the States of Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. Out of the total stocks of 5.12 lakhs tonnes of Tamil Nadu State, 2.45 lakh tonnes are earmarked for export. The remaining quantity of sugar is likely to be exhausted by January, 1966.

So far, no specific request from the Government of Tamil Nadu regarding early clearance of sugar stocks has been received by the Ministry of Food.

Statement

Statewise Stocks of Sugar held by the Sugar Factories as on 30.11.1995

S.No.	State/U.T.	Stock (MTs)
1.	Punjab	0.61
2.	Haryana	0.36
3.	Rajasthan	0.01
4.	Uttar Pradesh	5.78
5.	Madhya Pradesh	0.13
6.	Gujarat	0.88
7.	Maharashtra	11.97
8.	Bihar	0.51
9.	Assam	0.01
10.	Orissa	0.09
11.	West Bengal	0.02
12.	Nagaland	—
13.	Andhra Pradesh	1.53
14.	Karnataka	3.46
15.	Tamil Nadu	5.12
16.	Pondicherry	0.13
17.	Kerala	0.02
18.	Goa	0.03
	Total All India (–)	30.66
	Tamil Nadu (–)	5.12
	Total other States	25.54

Visit of Business Delegation to Pakistan

725. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether a business delegation from FICCI has lately visited Pakistan to create a substantive second track of dialogue between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof in terms of trade likely to follow between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) An 8-member